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## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number: 11055519

(43) Date of publication of application: 26.02.1999

(51)Int.CI.

H04N 1/407 B41J 2/44

(21)Application number: 09204987

(71)Applicant:

**CANON INC** 

(22)Date of filing: 30.07.1997

(72)Inventor:

**IDE HIROYASU** 

## (54) IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND PRINTER USING IT

## (57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To print out a sharp image even in the toner save mode for a color printer. SOLUTION: When a signal EDGEON is set, a color signal conversion circuit 252 selects a color with the highest density and provides an output of the color as a black image. An edge detection section 253 tests 9×9 pixels around a noted pixel and discriminates whether or not an edge consisting of pixels with • a prescribed density and pixels with • prescribed density form a noted pixel. If so, pixels with • a prescribed density are converted into pixels with the highest density and pixels with • a prescribed density are converted into pixels with the lowest density and then the image is formed.

